

R E M A R K S

The Office Action mailed 02/10/05 was held to be final.

Claims 1, 6, 8, 38, 43, 45 and 53, 71, 74-76, 84, 87-89 and 95-101 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 10, 12-25, 27-29, 31, 33-41, 43-45, 47, 49-60, 62-64, 66, 68-72, 74-76, 78, 81-85, 87-89, 91 and 94, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Plantz et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,088,702 ("Plantz").

Claims 1, 6, 8, 38, 43, 45, 53, 71, 74-76, 84 and 87-89 have been amended and claims 2-4, 7, 10, 12-25, 27-29, 31, 33-37, 39-41, 44, 47, 49-52, 54-60, 62-64, 66, 68-70, 72, 78, 84, 85, 91 and 94 have been canceled.

In response to the prior rejection of claim 1 as anticipated by Plantz, Applicant argued that Plantz fails to teach a method of connecting contributors through the network to concurrently prepare a presentation because Plantz teaches a method which denies access to other users once a first user has established an editing session (col. 7, lines 34-37).

In the FINAL rejection, the Examiner held that Applicant's arguments were not persuasive because Plantz teaches that multiple users are allowed to simultaneously work on the same project (col. 5, lines 3-5) through a network (col. 5, lines 1-3). The Examiner held that in the broadest reasonable interpretation, consistent with the specification, the claimed step of connecting through a network to concurrently collaborate to prepare a presentation was

anticipated by the teaching of the simultaneous project work of Plantz.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's holding to the extent the Examiner holds that Plantz teaches that all aspects of the work on the same project can be done simultaneous by multiple users. In particular, Plantz teaches that specific aspects of collaborative work, such as viewing (col. 5, lines 18-23), may be performed essentially simultaneously while other aspects of the collaborative work, such as editing (col. 7, lines 34-37), are intentionally limited to one user at a time in order to manage the project.

Further, Plantz specifically distinguishes the teachings in his patent from the teachings in a prior patent, USP 5,293,619, which Plantz describes as teaching collaborative use in which all users are simultaneously able to view the output of the application program (col. 3, lines 46-55) and as proposing a simultaneous, interactive editing session of a text document (col. 3, line 65 - col. 4, line 1). In particular, Plantz states that his patent teaches a collaborative system by which the efforts of a group of authors may be managed to produce a coherent group-authored project" (col. 4, lines 1-7). Plantz teaches away from concurrent editing by teaching managing the group project by not allowing concurrent editing.

Nothing in Plantz teaches or suggests, as now claimed in claim 1 as amended, making the proposed contributions from the plurality of contributors available for current viewing, editing and comment by the contributors and managing the preparation of the presentation by including contributions selected by the controller. Claims 6 and 8 are dependent on claim 1.

Further, nothing in Plantz teaches or suggests, as now claimed in claim 6 as amended, managing the preparation of the presentation by making instructions from the contributors visible to the controller or, as now claimed in claim 8 as amended, including a path for retrieving the selected contribution during a display of the presentation.

Nothing in Plantz teaches or suggests, as now claimed in claim 38 as amended, a control terminal operable to make the proposed contributions available through the network for concurrent viewing, editing and comment by contributors, to allow a controller to manage the preparation of the presentation by selecting one or more of the proposed contributions for inclusion into the presentation. Claims 43, 45 and 53 are dependent on claim 38.

Further, nothing in Plantz teaches or suggests, as now claimed in claim 43 as amended, a controller terminal operable to connect the contributors to the controller to provide instructions to the controller for preparing the presentation; nor, as now claimed in claim 45 as amended, a controller terminal operable to prepare a presentation script, the script including a path for retrieving a selected contribution through the network from a storage device during presentation; nor, as now claimed in claim 53 as amended, a controller terminal operable to retrieve a selected contribution from the respective storage device during display of the prepared presentation.

Nothing in Plantz teaches or suggests, as now claimed in claim 71 as amended, a method in which contributors make contributions by concurrently editing the presentation and contributions selected by

Serial No.: 09/881,133

the controller are displayed as part of the presentation. Claims 74, 75 and 76 are dependent on claim 71.

Further, nothing in Plantz teaches or suggests, as now claimed in claim 74 as amended, concurrently connecting the contributors to the controller to provide instructions to the controller for preparing the presentation; nor, as now claimed in claim 75 as amended, a method in which the contributors are connected to concurrently provide instructions prepare a presentation script; nor, as now claimed in claim 76 as amended, a method in which the script includes a path for retrieving a selected contribution through the network during the presentation.

Nothing in Plantz teaches or suggests, as now claimed in claim 84, a controller terminal for connecting contributor terminals to allow contributors to concurrently make contributions by concurrently editing the presentation and controller storage for storing the presentation and contributions selected by the control operator. Claims 87, 88 and 89 are dependent on claim 84.

Further, nothing in Plantz teaches or suggests, as now claimed in claim 87 as amended, a controller terminal operable to connect the contributors to the controller to provide instructions to the controller for preparing a script for the presentation; nor as claimed in claim 88, a controller terminal operable for identifying the selected contributions to be included in the presentation; nor, as claimed in claim 89 as now amended, a controller terminal operable to prepare a presentation script including a path for retrieving a selected contribution through the network during the presentation.

Still further, nothing in Plantz teaches or suggests, as claimed in newly presented claim 95, a method including connecting contributors and a control operator to create a virtual scripting office for joint preparation in real time, streaming elements of the script and incorporationg modifications under the control of the control operator. Claims 96-101 are dependent on claim 95.

Claims 5, 9, 11, 26, 30, 32, 42, 46, 48, 61, 65, 67, 73, 77, 79, 80, 86, 90, 92 and 93 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Plantz et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,088,702 in view of Arcuri et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,121,968 ("Arcuri").

Claims 5, 9, 11, 26, 30, 32, 42, 46, 48, 61, 65, 67, 73, 77, 79, 80, 86, 90, 92 and 93 have been cancelled.

Applicant have substantially reduced the claims at issue in a sincere attempt to move this case to issue and reserve the right to submit these and similar claims in subsequent continuation applications. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider his rejections of the pending claims in light of the amendments and remarks presented herein and pass this case to issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

/Norman E. Brunell Reg. #26533/
Norman E. Brunell, Reg. No. 26,533

IRELL & MANELLA LLP
Customer No. 29000
1800 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 900
Los Angeles, CA 90067-4276
(310) 277-1010
(310) 203-7199 Facsimile
nbrunell@irell.com